

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A bactericide against *Streptococcus mutans* and *Streptococcus sobrinus* comprising any one of the following proteins (1) [[to (3)]] or (2):  
(1) a protein comprising shown by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a protein having the amino acid sequence derived therefrom in which a maximum 5% of total amino acids are deleted, substituted or added and having a lytic activity against *Streptococcus mutans* or *Streptococcus sobrinus*; or  
(2) a protein having a 100±10 kDa band of lysed bacteria in a zymography containing killed *Streptococcus mutans*; and  
(3) a protein comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the protein is obtained from cultured cells transformed by DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or DNA encoding said protein(1)SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. (Currently amended) A composition for treating or preventing preventive agent of tooth decay, a therapeutic agent of tooth decay, a toothpaste, an oral cavity cleaner or a preventive gum of tooth decay, containing comprising the bactericide of claim 1.

3. (Withdrawn – currently amended) A method for killing selectively *Streptococcus mutans* and *Streptococcus sobrinus* using any one of the following proteins (1) [[to (3)]] or (2):

(1) a protein comprising shown by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a protein having the amino acid sequence derived therefrom in which a maximum 5% of total amino acids are deleted, substituted or added and having a lytic activity against *Streptococcus mutans* or *Streptococcus sobrinus*; or  
(2) a protein having a 100±10 kDa band of lysed bacteria in a zymography containing killed *Streptococcus mutans*; and

(3) a protein comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the protein is obtained from cultured cells transformed by DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or DNA encoding said protein(1)SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. (New) The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is a toothpaste, an oral cavity cleaner, or a gum.